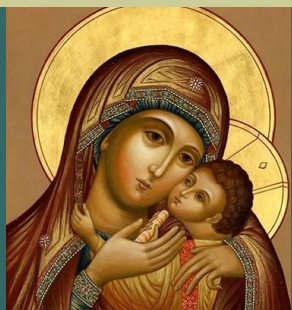


Volume 14, Number 8

August 2022



Newsletter of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Manchester, CT

Happenings

August Traditions Continue at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Day

A lovely custom St. Mary's has observed for years is celebrating the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the patron saint of our church, so it's fitting that we pay special attention to this feast day.

August 15 is the date the Episcopal and Anglican churches have designated as the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin. We at St. Mary's usually celebrate it on a nearby Sunday. This year St. Mary's Day will be observed in our church on Sunday, Aug. 21, as part of the 9 am service of Holy Eucharist.

Our celebration will include the traditional "flowering of the cross," so please bring fresh cut flowers of your own to beautify the frame.



School Supplies Drive

Our annual School Supplies Drive for Manchester Public Schools got underway on July 24 and will run until Sunday, Aug. 28. We are again supporting our partner school, Bennet 5th & 6th Grade Academy, located on Main St. We will also be creating welcome-back baskets for Bennet teachers so they can kick off the year with the supplies they need.

According to Sarah Tierinni, "There are great bargains for school supplies at local stores, so please consider picking a few up for the students of Manchester. Those who would like to donate monetarily may make out checks to St. Mary's with *School Supplies* in the memo line. All donations can be placed in the baskets at the front of the church each Sunday or in the tote bin on the office porch."

On Aug. 29, all items will be delivered to Bennet Academy in time for distribution to teachers and students before the first day of school, Sept. 6. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach to the Manchester community.

Looking for ideas? See p. 6.

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Moving Forward As a Faith Community



By Joy Dorin
Senior Warden

The vestry officers and priests of St. Mary's and St. John's met on Tuesday evening, July 12, to continue to explore the benefits and opportunities of pursuing a merger.

The energy level was high around the realization of what we can do together (outreach activities, Christian education, music program, fellowship events, etc.) in God's name throughout the greater Manchester and Vernon region by combining resources.

Next steps include a meeting with Bishop Laura and both vestries on Sept. 10 to outline the ECCT process to officially request permission to pursue a merger, and further conversations among the officers, vestries and parish members of both churches.

The ECCT merger process is a new process, and there are many questions around what it entails. Some of these questions were raised at this year's Annual Meeting. If you have additional questions, please let me know before the Sept. 10 meeting as we want the meeting

to be as informative as possible. We will distribute a summary of what was covered as soon as possible after the meeting.

Your comments and questions are welcome. Contact me at joyeaux@cox.net or 860-614-8183.

The Knitters Return!



Ten "crafty ladies" from St. Mary's and St. John's, Vernon, met Saturday July 16, for an informal "knitting in public day."

We were very pleased to have our new priest-in-charge, the Rev. Shaw Mudge, join us, as we enjoyed sharing stories and getting to know one another.

—Ruth McElraevy

Lawn Signage to Be Refreshed

By Joy Dorin
Senior Warden

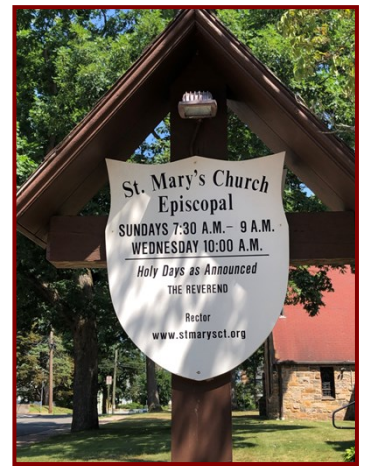
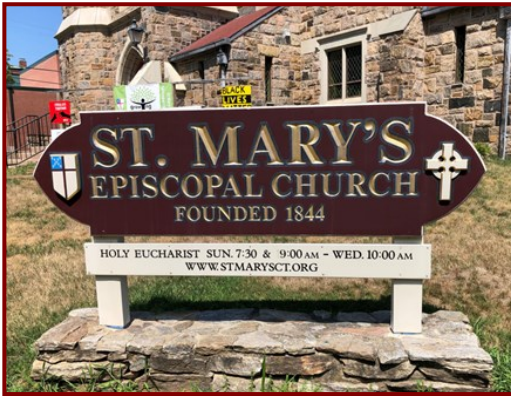
At June's meeting, your vestry voted to phase in updates and improvements to the various signs on St. Mary's lawn.

Over the next couple of weeks, the large wooden frame with the small, square signs and the Growing Our Faith banner will come down, and the banner will be hung on the church railing.

For the next iteration of the large sign (the wooden frame), our plan is to design a sign/banner that reflects our commitment to doing God's work in the community. Additionally, the large, white sign with the 9 a.m. service time and livestream information will be removed, as it did not weather well. The information on this sign will now be displayed on the property's two wooden signs; the horizontal sign at the edge of the lawn by the parking lot, and the pole sign at the corner of Park and Church, which will also be updated to include the name of our current rector, Rev. Dr. Shaw Mudge.



Left: Wooden frame and attached signs to come down. "Growing Our Faith" banner to be displayed on side door railing. New sign to be created.



Below, left and right: Service times and livestream information will appear on both signs, as well as new clergy name.

St. Mary's Scouts Excel at Camp



Boy Scout Troop 27 spent the week of July 3 through 8 at June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation. It was a great week, with the scouts earning 56 merit badges, five paddleboard awards, one snorkeling award, one best archer, one best rifle and an Arizona Challenge winner. In addition, Troop 27 attained Super Troop Status and won the Spirit Award. The photo shows the troop in the Parade of Review with the "Spirit Award Bike."

The Scouts worked hard and had a wonderful time with extras such as ATVs, waterfront activities, and shooting sports.

—Eileen Christensen

Hot Enough for You?

Hints for Summer Worship

When summer temperatures spike, St. Mary's sanctuary can feel positively tropical. Sunday services will still be held, and there are things we can do to be heat-smart.

Water — If you attend the service in person, bring along a bottle of water to sip in the pew so you can stay hydrated. Water should be in a container that can be closed securely to avoid spills. (We'll have some bottles of water available in

the narthex if you forget yours.)

Clothing — Wear light, comfortable clothing. Participants in worship—lay worship leaders, lay preachers and ministers of communion—will not be required to wear vestments.

Livestream — If you feel that being inside the church would be too much for you, you can always livestream the service on YouTube at 9 am or any time after that.

Length of Service — Keep in mind that the Morning Prayer service is shorter than the service of Holy Eucharist and so may be a good option for you.

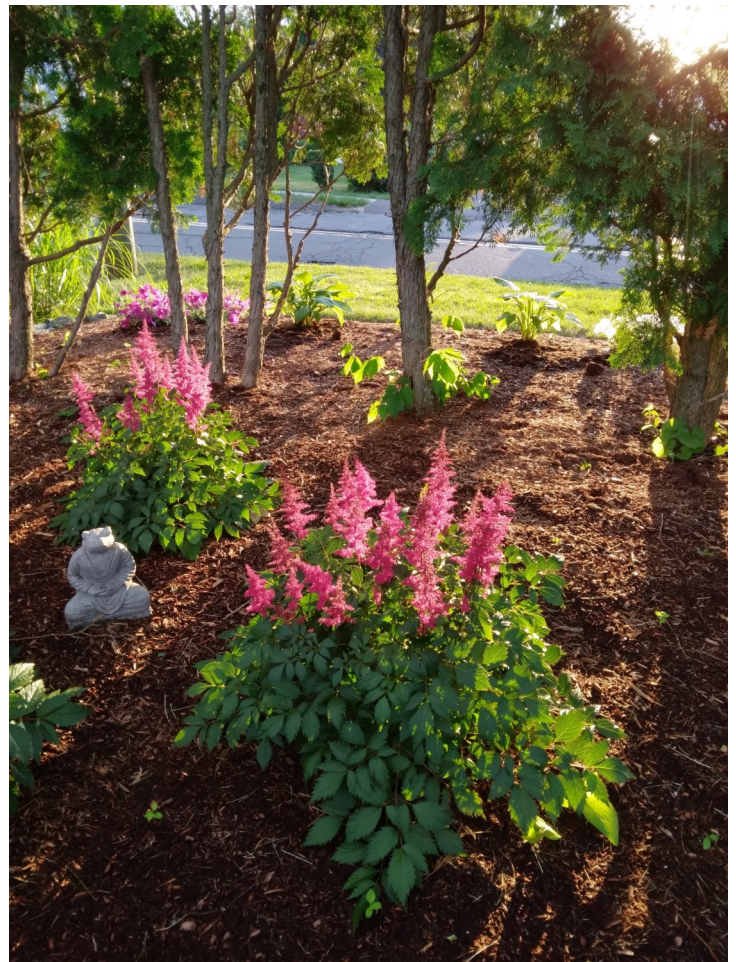


Joys of Summer

Sure, it can be hot. But summer also brings beautiful flowers—like these blooming in Ruth McElraevy's gardens. What's bringing *you* joy these days?



Clockwise from top left: knockout roses, astilbe at sunset, an Easter lily from St. Mary's now planted and blooming.



Financial Summary

June 2022

From Beth Bickley, Assistant Treasurer

	Previous Month	Current Month	YTD	2022	YTD % of
OPERATING STATE-MENT	May	June	6 Months	Full Year	Budget
			50% of Year	Budget	
Pledge Income	14,803	13,163	100,581	175,130	57%
Total Operating INCOME	19,103	17,052	129,781	226,158	57%
Total EXPENSES	22,514	14,927	151,958	288,002	53%
NET SURPLUS (LOSS)	(3411)	2125	(22,177)	(61,844)	36%
(without transfer)					
Transfer for Shortfall	4,600	0	23,500		
ECCT 2021 Earnings		6,025			

OPERATING ACCOUNT

- **JUNE OPERATING INCOME** of \$17,052 down from \$19,103 in May impacted mostly by the following:
 - ◇ Pledges – down \$1,640 from prior month
- **JUNE EXPENSES** of \$14,927 down about \$7,600 over May, impacted mostly by the following:
 - ◇ No double payment of Diocesan Pledge and Property Casualty Insurance as in May
 - ◇ Clergy Costs – Further decline of clergy-related costs of \$1,638
 - ◇ Utility Costs – Further decline of utility costs of \$1,120
 - ◇ B & G Building related costs – down \$460 from May
- As a result: We had a monthly operating surplus of \$2,125
- Actual YTD operating deficit (netting out non-recurring transfers) was reduced to **\$22,177**
- Note also a residual \$6,025 on income side from the transfer of 2021 market earnings from ECCT funds

NON-BUDGET/SPECIAL FUNDS ACCOUNT

- Receipts of note: \$23,500 ECCT 2021 market earnings (Total earnings were \$29,500 with \$6,025 left in Operating Fund Account)
- Disbursements of note: \$2,300 transfer to Operating Account as reallocation of parishioner's prepaid pledge



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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***Nurtured by Christ, Serving
Our Neighbors.***

Worship Schedule

**Visit us on
Facebook!**

Please watch your weekly emails (or postal mailings) for information about worship.

- 9 am, Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer in St. Mary's sanctuary. See below for August schedule. Service livestreamed on our YouTube channel.
- 7:30 pm, Compline (via Zoom) ONLY on Mondays and Wednesdays for the rest of the summer.

School Supplies Drive

Some ideas for what to give:

- Glue and glue sticks
- Markers and crayons
- Erasers
- Colored pencils
- Pocket folders
- Pens and pencils
- One-subject notebooks
- Post-its
- Cleaning wipes
- Tissues
- Expo markers
- Stickers
- Red pens

Questions? Contact Sarah Brown Tierinni at (860) 922-5849 or sarah.i.brown23@gmail.com.

Sunday Worship Schedule

August 7 — Holy Eucharist

August 14 — Morning Prayer

August 21 — Holy Eucharist (St. Mary's Day)

August 28 — Morning Prayer

Parish Register Updates

Burial:

Lawrence Cassells — died June 29